

**Area Target: 20 - /ɜr/**

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[Two language students]

- A. At first, I was excited about learning German. I had this urge to visit sights in Berlin, hear a concert in Hamburg, and see churches in Heidelberg. And I was determined to be able to converse with common folks – \*salesclerks and workers – about down-to-earth things. But now that the \*mid-term is here, all my worthy goals seem so absurd. I get so nervous my stomach is churning. I don't know if I can tell whether a word is a verb or an adverb!
- B. Obviously tests are a real hurdle for you. Still, I'm certain you'll earn a well-deserved A+. And then you'll see that you've gotten stirred up for nothing.
- A. You're right. I know I'm overly concerned about things. But I can't seem to curb my nerves. And that has an adverse effect: The more I worry, the worse I do. So keep on encouraging me! It serves a useful purpose!

Wayne B. Dickerson

\*compound noun